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ENG 1002C-013-023-044: Literature and Composition

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-023

-044

EN 1002C: Composition and Literature

Instructor: Lucinda Berry

Office: 315B Ext: 6309

Office hours: Tues/Thurs 9:00-9:30,
12:30-2:00, 3:30 - 4:00

Course Description: EN 1002 provides practice in writing academic essays requiring the use of rhetorical strategies such as explanation, comparison/contrast and persuasion. The subject of your essays will be various literary works in the genres of poetry, short fiction and drama.

You must learn and use various literary terms as an effective way to communicate ideas about these works. Class time will be spent discussing assigned readings as practice in the kind of analysis required in your essays.

Course Requirements: You must keep up with the readings and participate in discussion about them; answering questions and sharing your insights about the various works. Some questions for discussion are included in the texts and some on the syllabus. Think carefully about these before coming to class.

You will have three different kinds of writing assignments: Short essays to use as a starting point for further discussion in class, in-class essays in response to a particular question, and research essays. The discussion building essays should be no less than two type written pages. These assignments **will not be accepted if they are late**. Their deadlines are noted on the syllabus. Essays written in class will vary in length depending on the assigned topic.

Suggestions for longer papers will be given in class. Research requires finding out someone else's view of a work and synthesizing her ideas with your own. It does not mean simply reporting what someone else has written.

Grade Determination: Each discussion- building assignment will be worth 30 points.
Each research paper will be worth 100 points.
In-class assignments will be worth 15-30 points.
A final exam consisting of essay questions will be worth 50 points.
Class participation is REQUIRED: you will be able to earn a maximum of 5 points per class session -- one point for each answer/analytical remark about the reading. Total points in this category will be approximately 120 points, a significant portion of your grade. If you don't plan on saying a word all semester, you will be unable to earn a high grade.

90% of possible points = A
89-80% = B

79-70% = C
Less than 70% = NC

Consideration will be given to both content and mechanics in grading written assignments.

Weekly assignments will be assessed by

- how well you answer the question or stick to the topic given
- the perceptiveness of your analysis/discussion
- clarity of expression
- effectiveness of organization and transitions
- correct word usage, grammar, sentence structure and spelling

Research papers will be judged by the same criteria as well as

- how well the ideas of others are integrated with your own
- the care with which sources are acknowledged
- correct use of MLA style in citing sources and preparing your manuscript

Policies Affecting Grading

Obviously, there is no opportunity to make-up class discussion. Consequently, your total percentage of points will diminish if you do not attend class regularly. Another problem with being absent is that you may miss handouts and the assignment of topics for essays. As a general rule, more than three absences is excessive for a class which meets twice a week.

Unless you have an absence due to illness which can be verified by a doctor, assignments will not be accepted late. If you will not be on campus the day an assignment is due because of a school related activity such as participation in an athletic event, you should arrange to hand in the assignment prior to leaving. Late research papers will be marked down 20 points. They will not be accepted more than a week past the original due date. Expect no leniency on this policy.

Assignments should be handed in during your regular class time, not left in my mailbox or under my door.

Policy on Plagiarism

Random House Dictionary of the English Language defines plagiarism as "the appropriation or imitation of the language, ideas, and/or thoughts of another author, and representation of them as one's own original work." Plagiarism is cheating. If evidence of plagiarism is discovered in your work, you will receive an F for the assignment. In cases of blatant and intentional plagiarism, you will receive an F for the course. Plagiarism cases will be reported to the appropriate administrative offices, and will become a part of your academic record at EIU.

Disabilities

If you have a documented disability and wish to receive academic accommodations, please contact the Office of Disability Services at 581-6583 as soon as possible.

Course Schedule

We will begin with a section on poetry. RP refers to the text To Read a Poem by Donald Hall. WE refers to Writing Essays About Literature. The pages assigned for a particular date will be discussed in class on that date. You must read them before that class.

Jan 12 Intro to course/discuss analysis of poetry

- 14 RP pp. v-x and 1-21 Pay particular attention to Hall's explication of "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening," "Disillusionment of Ten O'Clock" (Be able to discuss questions on p. 13). p. 149 "The Road Not Taken" WE p. 83 first paragraph, pp. 87 - 89 Diction, apply the questions on p. 89 to "Dolor" on p. 155-156 in RP.

Jan 19 RP pp. 22-33 consider questions about poems in this section.

- "Ex-Basketball Player" p. 343; pay attention to imagery and line breaks,
- "Where I Live" p. 285; what does the speaker's description tell about his personality?
- "Lobsters in the Window" p. 328; note comparisons

- 21 RP pp. 34-41 consider questions about each of the poems in this section,

"Chicago" p. 316; carefully analyze the personification
DUE: Explication of "November and Aunt Jemima." Discuss how the poet's word choice, imagery, and metaphors shape the meaning of the poem.

Jan 26 RP pp. 42-62, pay particular attention to Hall's discussion of tone in the Hardy poem;

"My Papa's Waltz" p. 156; "The Garden of Love" p. 195; "Sex Without Love" p. 297
consider tone in these poems using the same kind of careful analysis Hall uses; you will be asked to discuss this in class.

- 28 RP pp. 63-75. "Calvary Crossing a Ford" p. 350, "Dulce et Decorum Est" pp.300-301, "The Legend" p. 252; apply questions about descriptive language from WE p. 94 to each of these poems.